

XXXII.—*Additions and Corrections to the "Birds of Kohat."*

By Lieut. C. H. T. WHITEHEAD, Indian Army*.

[104.] ARGYA EARLII.

[139.] PYCTORHIS SINENSIS.

These two species were observed only in Bannu (south of our limits), so the notes on them should be in brackets.

[411.] PHYLLOSCOPUS NEGLECTUS. (See 'Ibis,' 1909, p. 124.)

"This specimen is not typical *P. neglectus*. but is larger and darker. It appears to belong to *P. neglectus brenzi*, but it is difficult to understand how this form can occur at Kohat. Perhaps the distribution of the Caucasian form is much wider than we know at present (Vög. pal. Fauna, i. p. 506). It would be desirable to examine a series and to make sure if it is this form which breeds in Kohat." (*E. Hartert.*)

[624.] *For* SAXICOLA ŒNANTHE *read* SAXICOLA MORIO Hempr. & Ehr.

[666.] MERULA MAXIMA.

In May and June last I found this Blackbird breeding in the juniper-scrub between 10,000 and 12,000 feet. Altogether eight nests were obtained. The nidification is very similar to that of *M. vulgaris*. The nest is usually built in a juniper, but occasionally in the hollow of a cliff. The song seems to lack the quality and variety of that of *M. vulgaris*, but it is not often heard. The ordinary call, and also the alarm-note, is *tchüt-üt-üt* rapidly repeated. The rattling alarm so freely used by the common species was only heard when the eggs or young were in danger. The males are very wary, and are seldom seen near the nest, except when

* [Lieut. Whitehead sends us the following corrections and additions to his article on the Birds of Kohat and Kurram in Northern India, which appeared in 'The Ibis' for January and April last (above, pp. 90 and 214). Dr. Hartert has kindly examined and determined some of the doubtful specimens. The numbers in brackets are those of the 'Fauna of British India.'—EDD.]

the young have to be fed. The majority appear to breed in immature plumage—only two were observed in the glossy black dress with orange bill of the adult. I have sent a nestling and a bird of the year during its first moult to the British Museum.

[812.] *PTYONOPROGNE OBSOLETA.*

Common in March in the craggy hills of South Kohat. A few individuals were in pairs, so the bird may possibly breed there.

[838.] *MOTACILLA CITREOLOIDES.*

I can confirm my note about the nesting of this species in immature plumage. This year I was in its breeding-grounds a month earlier and came across a good many nests. Only about half of those breeding were in full plumage. The remainder were of two forms:—

(1) Grey above, with black feathers here and there; supercilium and under surface yellowish-white.

(2) Dark grey above with some black feathers; head and under surface deep yellow, sullied on the flanks and crown.

I have sent two examples, namely a nesting pair, the male of type (2) and the female of type (1), to the British Museum.

[851.] *ANTHUS SPIPOLETTA.*

In my list ('Ibis,' 1909, p. 244) under No. [851] appears an enumeration of six specimens under the name *Anthus spipoletta* and of three under *Anthus coutellii*; under the latter name, however, two specimens (Nos. 646 and 647) are mentioned again, though they had appeared already as *Anthus spipoletta*. Dr. Hartert has kindly examined these Pipits for me, and he informs me that, in his opinion, they belong neither to typical *A. spipoletta* nor to *A. coutellii*, but to the Central Asiatic form which he calls *Anthus spinoïetta blakistoni* (cf. Hartert, Vög. pal. Fauna, i. p. 282). As to numbers 622, 632, and 636, he is quite sure that they are typical *A. blakistoni*, while Nos. 387 and 568 are too much worn and too dirty to be named with certainty, but there is no reason whatever to doubt their belonging to *A. blakistoni*.

as well. Dr. Hartert has also re-examined the four specimens [852] which I identified as *A. japonicus*, and he agrees with this determination. He points out further that the proper specific name of the Water-Pipit is *spinoletta* and not *spipoletta*, according to the original spelling.

[862.] CALANDRELLA BRACHYDACTYLA.

Nos. 613, 621, 730, 731 are examples of [864] *C. tibetana* and not of *C. brachydactyla*.

[1200.] AQUILA CHRYSÆTUS.

I have now seen the Golden Eagle in its summer-quarters in the Kaghan Valley, and feel fairly certain that the Eagle with the rufous-buff nape, which frequents the low rocky hills in Kohat in winter, is of this species. It is a regular visitor, but not common, and is not seen on the grass farms—the rendezvous of *AA. heliaca*, *bifasciata*, *vindhiana*, and *maculata*—nor fighting over carrion, monitor lizards, &c., as these other species do, but is usually found singly in desolate country.

[1388.] RALLUS AQUATICUS.

Another example of this species was shot on the 8th of March.

[1437.] CHETTUSIA GREGARIA.

The note on this species (*suprà*, p. 273) was somewhat misleading. I have re-written it as follows:—

Small flocks pass through from the last week in February till the end of March: many are then in full plumage, *i. e.* are black and chestnut on the abdomen (see Blanford, Fauna of B. I. vol. iv. p. 232). A solitary example was shot on the parade-ground at Fort Lockhart (6500 feet), where it had alighted during parade.

[1447.] ÆGIALITIS DUBIA.

The comma which has been inserted in the 7th line after "Dandar" entirely alters the sense: the comma should follow "at least."

The following species *not* in the Kohat list were noted by me last March on the River Indus near Kalabagh (*a few*

miles south of our limits), and are of interest as they probably also occur in Kohat:—

[867.] ALAUDULA ADAMSI. The Indus Sand-Lark was common along the sandy shore wherever there were patches of vegetation; it had then paired, and one pair allowed me to watch them building their nest under the lee of some tamarisk shoots.

[1189.] PANDION HALIAËTUS. I saw one Osprey fishing.

[1419.] ESACUS RECURVIROSTRIS. I put up four Great Stone-Plovers off a stony bank.

[1503.] STERNA SEENA. The Indian River-Tern, the Black-bellied, and the Caspian were all common, especially the first two.

[1517.] RHYNCHOPS ALBICOLLIS. A flock of about thirty Scissorbills was seen flying up and down the river, occasionally resting on a sand-bank. Cry, a nasal *kap, kap*.

[1583.] ANSER INDICUS. I saw a flock of Bar-headed Geese cropping young beans.

XXXIII.—Contributions to the Ornithology of Egypt.—No. II.
Birds of the Province of Giza.—Part 3*. By MICHAEL
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125. CUCULUS CANORUS.

Cuculus canorus Shelley, p. 162.

The Cuckoo is a regular visitor during both migrations. The earliest to arrive in autumn are invariably adult birds.

I have never heard the "song" of the Cuckoo in Egypt.

126. COCCYSTES GLANDARIUS.

Coccytes glandarius Shelley, p. 162.

I have not personally met with the Great Spotted Cuckoo in the Province, but Dr. Walter Innes informs me that it occurs commonly in the "Sont" woods near Mazghouna.

* Continued from p. 484.